
Adult Medical Emergencies:

Hypertensive Crisis



I. All Provider Levels

1. Refer to the Patient Care Protocols.
2. Provide 100% oxygen via NRB. If respiratory effort is inadequate assist ventilations utilizing BVM with 100% oxygen.
3. Place the patient in position of comfort.
4. Initiate advanced airway management with Combi-tube if respiratory effort is inadequate.



Note Well: EMT-I and EMT-P should use ET intubation.



II. Advanced Life Support Providers

1. Attach EKG monitor and interpret rhythm.
2. Consider obtaining a 12-lead EKG if possible
3. Establish an IV of Normal Saline KVO or Saline lock.
4. If blood pressure is above 230 mm/Hg systolic or 130 mm/Hg diastolic without signs and symptoms of CVA (parathesia, slurred speech, and unequal grip on neurological exam) contact Med Control for direction.
5. Reassess patient every 5 minutes.



III. Transport Decision

1. Transport to the closest appropriate open facility.

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IV. The Following Options are Available by Medical Control Only

1. Nitroglycerin 0.4 mg SL (tablet or spray).
2. Nitroglycerin paste 1.5 inches